RAO BAHADUR T. V. VENKATESWARA AIYAR (*Conservator of Forests*): (*a*) and (*b*) The matter is under correspondence and the terms of the agreement have not been finally settled.

MR. KANNANTHODATH JANARDANAN NAIR: With regard to the answer given, may I know the policy of Government in entering into such contracts?

RAO BAHADUR T. V. VENKATESWARA AIYAR: The policy of Government is to encourage local industries without detriment to the forest policy.

Pay of the teachers in the University of Travancore.

189. * **MR. KANNANTHODATH JANARDANAN NAIR**: Will the Government be pleased to state:

(*a*) whether there is a proposal to revise the pay of the teachers in the University of Travancore; and

(*b*) if so, the nature of the revision?

RAJYASEVAPRAVINA M. K. NILAKANTA AIYAR: (*a*) and (*b*) The University is an autonomous statutory body and the proposals under consideration by it, if any, are not of direct concern to Government.

MR. PULIYOOR T. P. VELAYUDHAN PILLAI: Sir, I rise to a point of order. This is a matter affecting the privileges and prestige of this House and as you are the custodian of such privileges and prestige, I wish to raise a point of order. From page 185 of the Preliminary Budget it could be seen that an amount of Rs. 8·25 lakhs is given as grant to the University and this question relates to the manner in which the sum we are going to sanction is to be expended. The question is "will the Government be pleased to state: (*a*) whether there is a proposal to revise the pay of the teachers in the University of Travancore; and (*b*) if so, the nature of the revision?, and the answer is "The University is an autonomous statutory body and the proposals under consideration by it, if any, are not of direct concern to Government." My point is this. Since the salary of the teachers has to be met from the grant which is sanctioned by this House, are we not entitled to make enquiries in regard to that matter and are we not entitled to put such questions bearing on the expenditure of the grant sanctioned by this House?

PRESIDENT: I am glad that this point of order has been raised. It is an important question affecting and likely to affect not only the University but many other institutions. As was stated in the answer, the University of Travancore is autonomous and has been constituted by a Statute. Under that Statute, there is a Senate and a Syndicate and certain organisations dealing with University finances. In consideration and appreciation of the objects of the University the Government are giving certain grants. If the University misuses that grant or makes appointments in such an extravagant manner or on

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[President.]

such a scale as to nullify the object of the grant, then it is certainly open to this Honourable House to say that such grant or a portion of such grant must be withheld from that body. But in the case of the University of Travancore, and in the case of, other institutions to which the Government extends its support, the policy of Government should in my opinion, be not to interfere with the details of administration just as Government will hereafter not interfere with the small details of the Municipal and Local administrations. Assuming that a municipality makes an imprudent appointment or a series of such appointments as some municipalities have done in the past, or are doing to-day, the policy of Government after the passing of the new District Municipalities Act will be to interfere only when there is manifest illegality or injustice. If matters proceed beyond certain tolerated and tolerable points, Government may say that further assistance is not possible. Therefore the answer was given in the present form. It is also the policy of Government to repose full trust and confidence in the Senate of the University and to proceed on the basis that they will not expend money in an extravagant and thoughtless fashion. But to go further into the matter and for the Government to dictate, for instance the scale of salaries for a certain appointment, would affect the autonomy and prestige of the University. The same question has arisen in other places. It arose crucially and pointedly during the course of a great controversy between one of the greatest educationists of India, Sir Asutosh Mukerjee and Lord Curzon and the policy has been laid down after careful thought. In regard to the University as in regard to Municipalities the policy of Government is one of normal non-interference. It must be the definite policy of Government to allow the Municipalities to manage their offices or even to mismanage them.

MR. PULIYOOR T. P. VELAYUDHAN PILLAI: May I know whether in any given case, if any member of the Legislature wants to impress upon the Government the possibilities.....

PRESIDENT: That can be done under a cut motion in connection with the University grant. I do not mean to say that this House is restricted in that matter. When the question comes up under a cut motion, it is open to the Government and to this House to discuss the principles. However, discussions on individual appointments and individual cases will be allowed or not allowed keeping these principles in mind.

MR. PULIYOOR T. P. VELAYUDHAN PILLAI: But, Sir, any matter which forms the subject matter of a cut motion may also form the subject matter of an interpellation.

PRESIDENT: But there is a limit for that. The interpellation here is " whether there is a proposal to revise the pay of the teachers in the University of Travancore "; and this is a thing of the future. This reminds me of a proverb in Tamil which speaks of a man raising up his garment half a mile before he reaches a river. If the University thinks of taking certain steps and if those steps are

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censurable it should be within the competence of the chair to allow a debate on it in so far as it is possible to do so and at the proper time.

Sub-Registrar's Cutcherry, Veliyam pakuthi.

190. ✻ **MR. P. KUNJUKRISHNAN** (*Quilon cum Kottarakara*) : Will the Government be pleased to state :

(*a*) whether Government have received representations from the public of Veliyam, Velunallur, Nedumpanakal and Ommannur pakuthies in Kottarakara taluk, praying for the establishment of a Sub-Registrar's Cutcherry in the Veliyam pakuthi ; and

(*b*) if the answer to part (a) is in the affirmative, what steps have been taken thereon ?

MR. K. MADHAVA KURUP (*Director of Registration*) : (*a*) Yes.

(*b*) The proposal to open an additional Sub-Registry Office at Kottarakara is under consideration.

MR. P. KUNJUKRISHNAN: May I know from the honourable member why an additional Sub-Registry Office is proposed to be opened at Kottarakara ?

MR. K. MADHAVA KURUP : To cope with the increase of work.

MR. P. KUNJUKRISHNAN: May I know how many Sub-Registrars' Offices there are at Kottarakara ?

MR. K. MADHAVA KURUP : There is only one office in Kottarakara.

MR. P. KUNJUKRISHNAN: May I know whether there was a Sub-Registry Office in Veliyam pakuthi in the Kottarakara taluk ; and if there was one, may I know the period during which it functioned and the reason why it was abolished ?

MR. K. MADHAVA KURUP : There was a Sub-Registry Office at Veliyam. It functioned for about one and a half years in the years 1105 to 1107 : and the office was abolished owing to lack of work.

MR. P. KUNJUKRISHNAN: May I know whether the work at the Kottarakara Sub-Registry Office has increased after the abolition of this office ?

MR. K. MADHAVA KURUP : The Kottarakara Sub-Registry Office is attending to the work of all the pakuthies in that taluk including the Veliyam pakuthi. The work has not increased because of the abolition of the Veliyam office.

MR. P. KUNJUKRISHNAN : May I know whether any representations were received from the people of any other pakuthies in Kottarakara taluk than the pakuthi referred to here ?

MR. K. MADHAVA KURUP: No, Sir.

MR. P. KUNJUKRISHNAN : May I know then, is it not proper that a Sub-Registry Office is given to this pakuthi ?

MR. K. MADHAVA KURUP : As I said Sir, there is not enough work for one office at Veliyam.

MR. P. KUNJUKRISHNAN: May I know whether a separate Sub-Registry Office for these pakuthies will ease the work of the Kottarakara Sub-Registry Office ?

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